

IN THE CLAIMS

1 (Currently Amended). A computer implemented method comprising:
determining characteristics of a client in order to select a selected probe routine
from among at least two available probe routines to transfer from a ~~[[the]]~~ server to the client;
selecting a probe routine based on a client characteristic;
transferring the selected probe routine from the server to the client; ~~and~~
enabling the probe routine to examine a file on the client to determine the
capabilities of the client; ~~and to~~
~~provide~~ providing information back to the server from the probe routine about
those client capabilities; and
maintaining the probe routine on the client for subsequent reactivation.

2 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 1 including transferring the selected
probe routine over a wireless network.

3 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 1 including transferring the selected
probe routine over a wired network.

4 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 1 including transferring the selected
probe routine over a telephone network.

5 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 1 including transferring the selected
probe routine over a local area network.

Claim 6 (Canceled).

7 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 1 wherein said characteristics include
classmark information about the client.

8 (Original). The method of claim 7 including using the classmark information to select software to transfer from the server to the client.

9 (Currently Amended). An article/product comprising a computer readable medium storing instructions that, when executed by a processor-based system, enable the processor-based system to:

determine characteristics of a client in order to select a selected probe routine from at least two available probe routines to transfer from server to client;
select a probe routine based on a client characteristic;
transfer the selected probe routine from the server to the client; ~~and~~
enable the selected probe routine to examine a file on the client to determine the capabilities of the client; ~~and to~~
provide information back to the server from the probe routine about those client capabilities; and
maintain the probe routine on the client for subsequent reactivation.

10 (Previously Presented). The article of claim 9 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to transfer the selected probe routine over a wireless network.

11 (Previously Presented). The article of claim 9 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to transfer the selected probe routine over a wired network.

12 (Previously Presented). The article of claim 9 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to transfer the selected probe routine over a telephone network.

13 (Previously Presented). The article of claim 9 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to transfer the selected probe routine over a local area network.

Claim 14 (Canceled).

15 (Previously Presented). The article of claim 9 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to use classmark information to determine the capabilities of the client.

16 (Original). The article of claim 15 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to use the classmark information to select software to transfer from the server to the client.

17 (Currently Amended). A system comprising:
a server;
an interface coupled to the server to enable the server to transfer a probe routine to a plurality of clients;
a storage coupled to the server, said storage storing software that includes instructions to receive information about characteristics of the client in order to select a selected ~~an appropriate~~ probe routine based on a client characteristic from at least two available probe routines to transfer from client to server; ~~and~~, transfer the selected probe routine from the server to the client, ~~and~~ enable the probe routine to examine a file on the client to determine the capabilities of the client, ~~and to~~ provide information back to the server from the probe routine about those client capabilities, and maintain the probe routine on the client for subsequent reactivation.

18 (Original). The system of claim 17 including at least one client.

19 (Original). The system of claim 17 including a wireless link.

20 (Original). The system of claim 17 including a hard wired link between server and client.

21 (Previously Presented). The system of claim 17 wherein said storage stores instructions that enable the server to transfer the selected probe routine over a telephone network.

Claim 22 (Canceled).

23 (Previously Presented). The system of claim 22 wherein said storage stores instructions that enable the server to obtain classmark information from the client in order to determine a characteristic of a client to select an appropriate probe routine to transfer from server to client.

Claim 24 (Canceled).